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Patent Status Inquiry; Commissioner for Patents; P.O. Box
1450; Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on August 4, 2003.


Gunther O. Hanke, Registration No. 32,989

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	:	Joseph I. Rubin
Filed	:	Herewith
Serial No.	:	Unassigned
Divisional of Serial No.	:	09/654,958
Title	:	SAMPLE PREPARATION APPARATUS AND METHOD
Prior Group Art Unit	:	2823
Prior Examiner	:	Ngyen, Khiem D.
Docket No.	:	ULTEC.65052
Customer No.	:	27629

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Patent Applications
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Prior to the examination on the merits, please cancel without prejudice claims 1-13.

Claims 14-18 remain pending. Consideration is respectfully requested.

If any additional fees are due in this matter, please charge our Deposit Account No. 21-0800.